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DAREDEVIL®

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

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TO DIE IN DARKNESS!

He dwells in eternal night—but the blackness is filled with sounds and scents other men cannot perceive. Though attorney MATT MURDOCK is *blind*, his other senses function with *superhuman sharpness*—his *radar sense* guides him over every obstacle! He stalks the streets by night, a red-garbed foe of evil!

Stan Lee presents: DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!™

R. McKENZIE SCRIPT / F. ROBBING PENCILS / F. SPRINGER & INKS / D. WOHL LETTERS / B. SHAREN COLORS / B. HALL EDITOR / J. SHOOTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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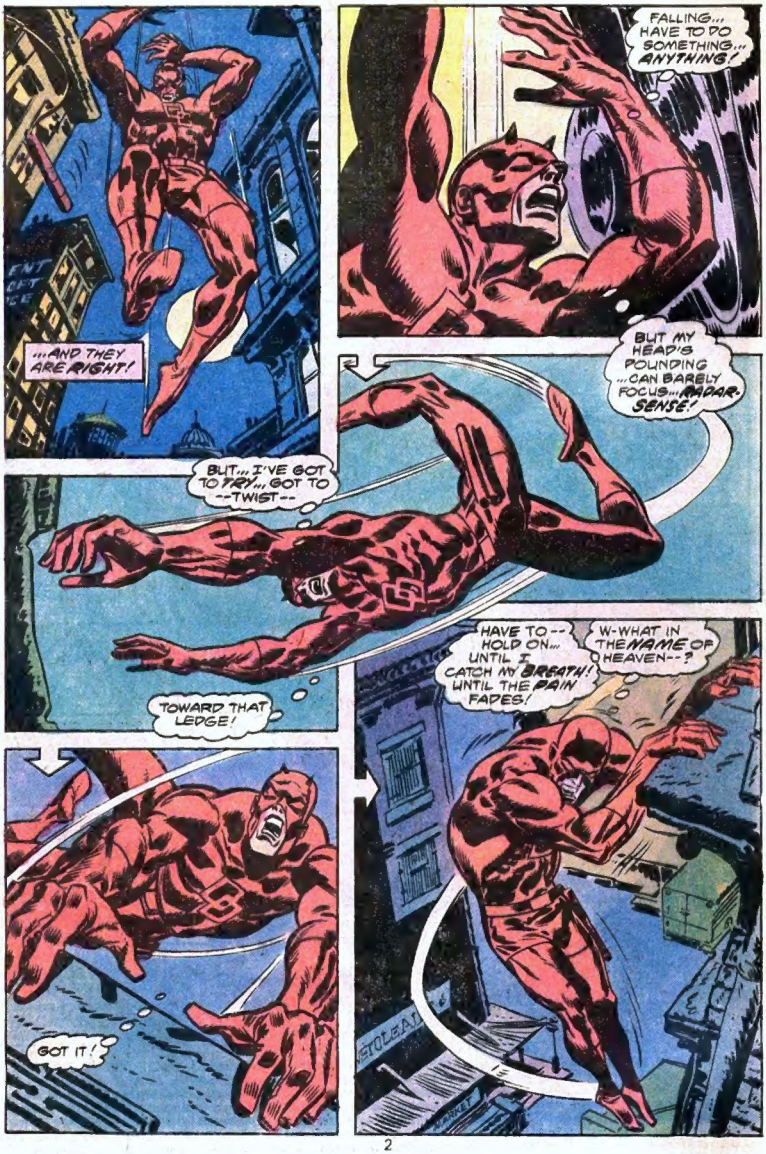
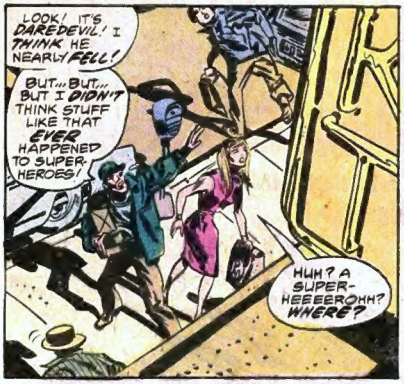

...AND THEY ARE RIGHT!
FALLING... HAVE TO DO SOMETHING... ANYTHING!
BUT MY HEAD'S POUNDING ...CAN BARELY FOCUS... RADAR-SENSE!
BUT... I'VE GOT TO TRY... GOT TO --TWIST--
TOWARD THAT LEDGE!
HAVE TO -- HOLD ON... UNTIL I CATCH MY BREATH! UNTIL THE PAIN FADES!
W-WHAT IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN--?
GOT IT!



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WAIT! WHAT'S THIS?
DISCOU

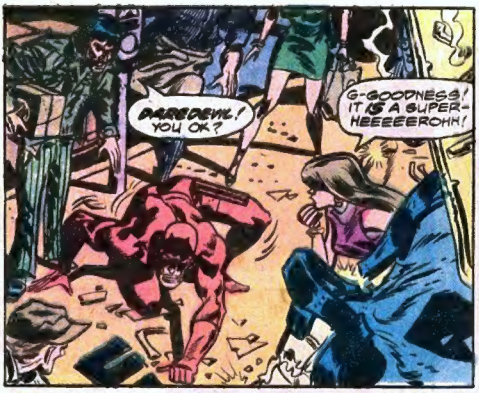
CAN FEEL... ELECTRICAL IMPULSES... FLICKERING ON AND OFF AGAIN...
...MUST BE A NEON SIGN!

SPPRRKK
IF I CAN JUST--

SPPPTTZ
MART
SALE

ZZKKK!

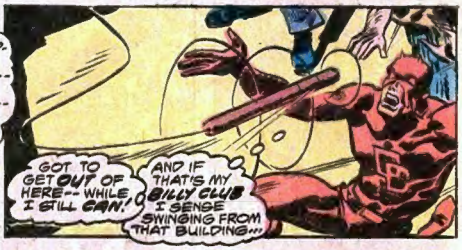
SSWARK!
SUN!
WUUUPPO!

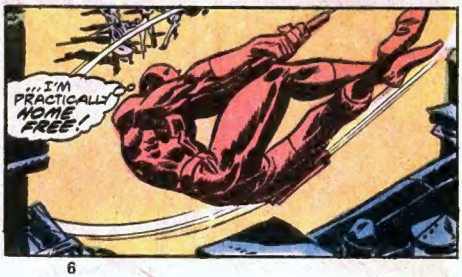

DAREDEVIL! YOU OK?
G-GOODNESS! IT IS A SUPER-HEEEEEROHH!

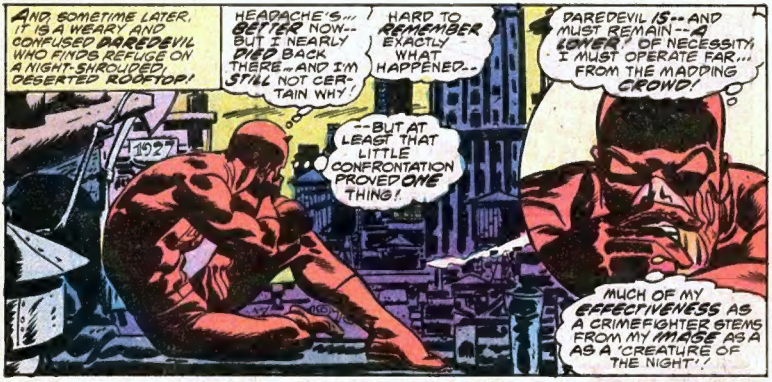
AND WHAT A HUNK!
NO... DON'T!
RIT

HEY! WHAT'S EATIN' YOU, CREEPY! WE WUZ ONLY TRYIN' TO HELP!
OHHH!
GET BACK, PLEASE LEAVE ME ALONE!
TOO MANY PEOPLE CROWDING AROUND! THEIR VOICES-- EVEN THEIR HEARTBEATS-- ARE OVERWHELMING MY HYPER-SENSES!
YOU SEE THAT, HE'S ACTIN' LIKE ONE 'A THEM... EVIL WHATCHA-MACALLITS-- MUTANTS!
YEAH, CARY, I KNOW WHAT YA MEAN... I THINK...!

NOW I'VE DONE IT!
MUTANT? YEAH THAT MAKES SENSE!
MAYBE JAMESON'S RIGHT! I READ WHERE YOU CAN'T TRUST ANY OF THESE--VIGILANTES!


GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE-- WHILE I STILL CAN!
AND IF THAT'S MY BILLY CLUB I SENSE SWINGING FROM THAT BUILDING...


...I'M PRACTICALLY HOME FREE!



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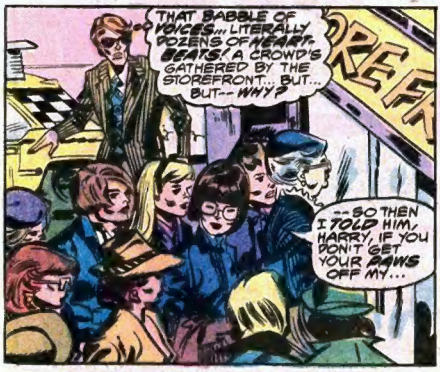
SOMETIMES... WHEN I THINK OF ALL THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME...
... I CAN'T HELP FEELING THAT DARE-DEVIL IS MY OWN WORST ENEMY!
EGA
THOUGH MATT DOESN'T KNOW IT YET, HIS BITTER WORDS WILL PROVE TO BE MORE OMINOUSLY PROPHETIC THAN HE COULD EVER GUESS.

BUT THAT'S ANOTHER STORY -- BEST TOLD ANOTHER TIME...
... AND, HAD THE BROODING LAWYER LINGERED BUT A FEW MOMENTS LONGER...

... HE WOULD HAVE DISCOVERED HE WASN'T THE ONLY CREATURE OF THE NIGHT...
HEHHEHHEH!

MURDOCK, YOU POOR, UNSUSPECTING FOOL!
... STALKING THESE LITTER-STREWN, MIDNIGHT STREETS!

THE NET DRAWS CLOSER AROUND YOU -- AND THERE WILL BE NO ESCAPE!
SOON YOU WILL PAY FOR THE YEARS OF TORMENT YOU HAVE CAUSED ME!
FOR SOON YOU WILL FEEL THE SOUL-WITHERING TOUCH OF DEATH-STALKER!



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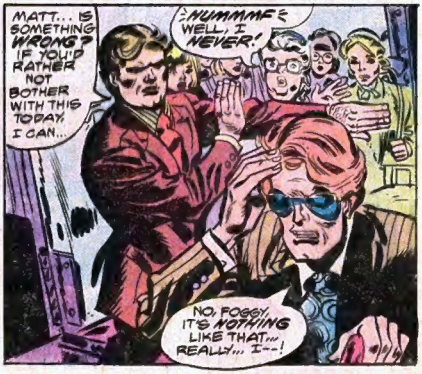
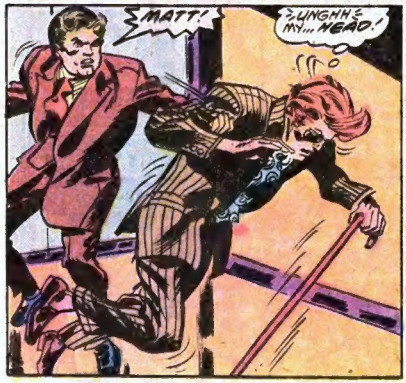
FOGGY! WHAT IN THE WORLD'S GOING ON?
WELL, MATT, UH... IT'S LIKE THIS... I... I MEAN WE...
THAT IS, THE FIRM...

IT'S ALL RIGHT HERE, YOUNG MAN, IN THE BUGLE... UNDER 'HELP WANTED'; BUT IF THIS IS SOME SORT OF JOKE, BELIEVE ME, YOU'LL HEAR FROM MY LAWYER!
LADY-- I AM A LAWYER!

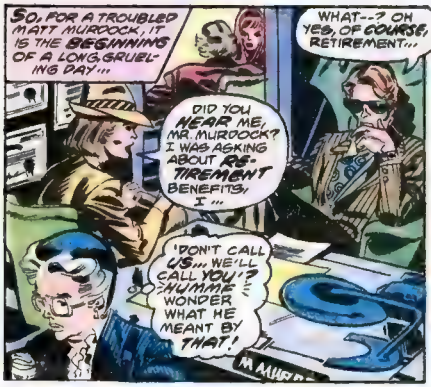
A-AND AN OVERWORKED ONE, TOO, MATT! WITH YOUR HEAVY CASELOAD, I THOUGHT...
...I... THOUGHT ...THAT... YOU...
UH, GUESS I SHOULDA CHECKED WITH YOU FIRST, THOUGH, HUH, PARTNER?

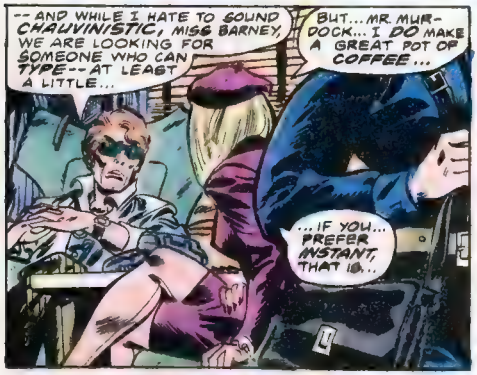
YES, I GUESS SO... PARTNER...
...BUT WHAT'S DONE IS DONE, I SUPPOSE, AND I COULD USE THE HELP! IT'S JUST THAT, RIGHT NOW, I'M...

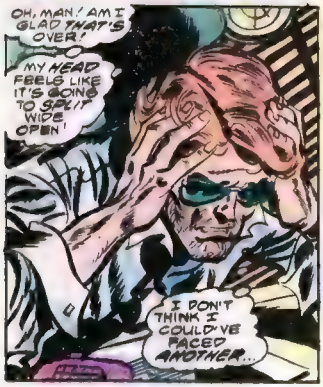

MATT... IS SOMETHING WRONG? IF YOU'D RATHER NOT BOTHER WITH THIS TODAY, I CAN...
NUMMMF! WELL, I NEVER!
NO, FOGGY, IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT... REALLY... I--!


MATT!
UNGHH! MY... HEAD!

MATT, YOU'RE WHITE AS A SHEET! ARE YOU SICK? WANT ME TO CALL A DOCTOR?
NO! I-- I'M FINE, FOGGY, JUST FINE. I... TRIPPED. IT'S AN OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD...







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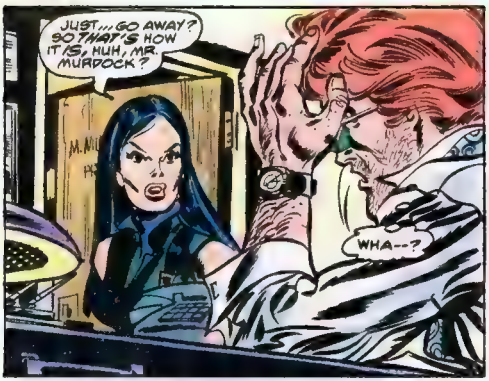
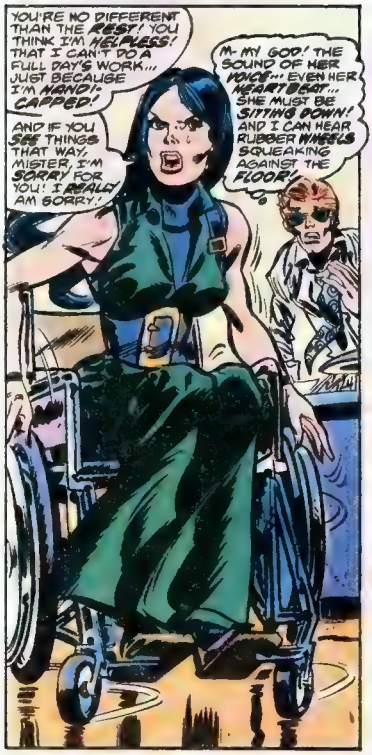

JUST... GO AWAY? SO THAT'S HOW IT IS, HUH, MR. MURDOCK?
WHA--?

SURE, I'LL GO! I'LL BE GLAD TO! AND DON'T BOTHER GETTING UP, COUNSELOR! I GOT IN HERE BY MYSELF... I CAN LEAVE THE SAME WAY!


YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT THAN THE REST! YOU THINK I'M HELPLESS! THAT I CAN'T DO A FULL DAY'S WORK... JUST BECAUSE I'M HAND-CAPPED!
AND IF YOU SEE THINGS THAT WAY, MISTER, I'M SORRY! FOR YOU! I REALLY AM SORRY!
M-MY GOD! THE SOUND OF HER VOICE... EVEN HER HEARTBEAT... SHE MUST BE SITTING DOWN! AND I CAN HEAR RUBBER WHEELS SQUEAKING AGAINST THE FLOOR!

THEN SHE'S ... SHE'S...
MISS, PLEASE! WAIT!

I... I DIDN'T SEE...
...I... DIDN'T SEE... AT ALL...
TAP!
TAP!

AND ONE ANIMATED CONVERSATION LATER...
...COLLEGE --AND TWO YEARS OF LAW SCHOOL? MISS BLAKE. OKAY... I THINK YOU'D BE PERFECT FOR THE JOB!
DO YOU REALLY... MATT? I MEAN YOU'RE NOT JUST FEELING SORRY FOR A...?

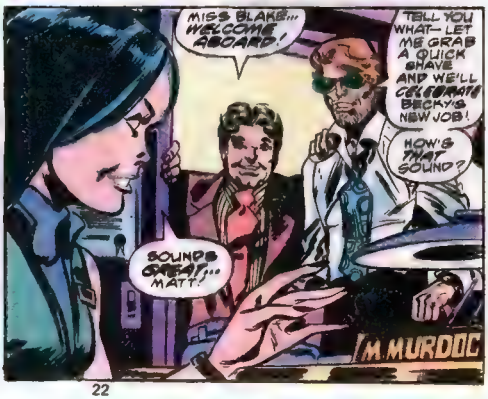
UH, MATT, COULD I SEE YOU A SEC?

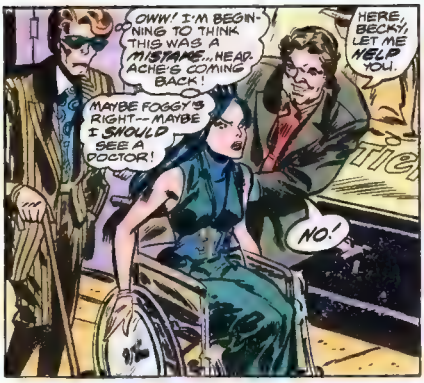
I COULDN'T HELP OVER-HEARING, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD GET HER HOPES TOO HIGH. I MEAN...

MEAN WHAT, FOGGY?
THAT SHE'S HANDICAPPED?

WELL, UH, MATT, I DIDN'T QUITE MEAN IT TO SOUND THAT WAY, I--

--I GUESS I JUST INSERTED MY FOOTPIECE RIGHT SMACK DAB IN MY MOUTHPIECE, DIDN'T I?
SORRY, BUDDY, IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.


MISS BLAKE... WELCOME ABOARD!
TELL YOU WHAT-- LET ME GRAB A QUICK SHAVE AND WE'LL CELEBRATE BECKY'S NEW JOB!
HOW'S THAT SOUND?
SOUNDS GREAT,... MATT.
I'M MURDOC



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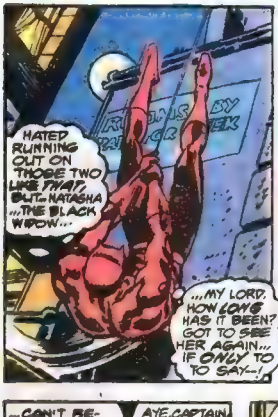
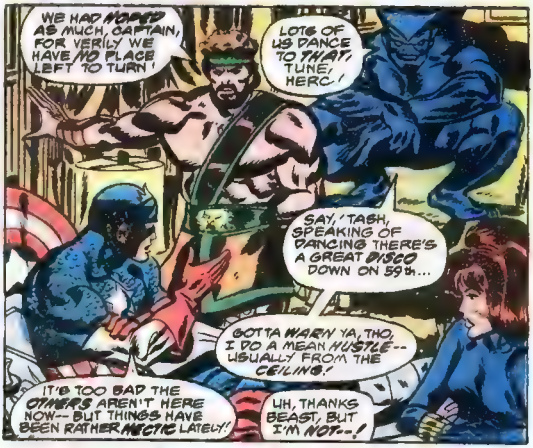
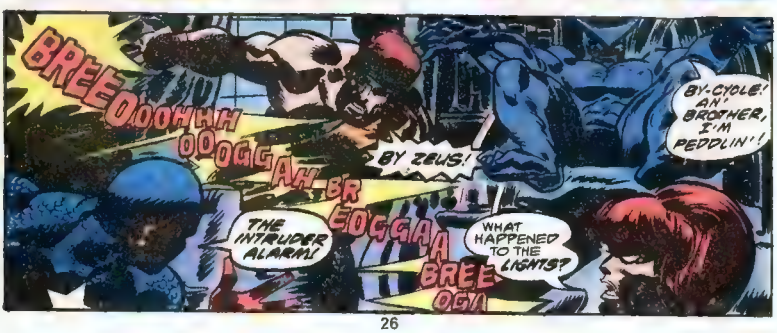

HATED RUNNING OUT ON THOSE TWO LIKE THAT, BUT... NATASHA ...THE BLACK WIDOW...
...MY LORD, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? GOT TO SEE HER AGAIN... IF ONLY TO TO SAY--!

UNNNH MY HEAD!

P-PAIN'S WORSE... THAN EVER... I...

...CAN'T BELIEVE THE CHAMPIONS HAVE ACTUALLY DISBANDED, HERCULES!
AYE, CAPTAIN, TIS A SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS-- BUT TRUE!
STILL, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU AND NATASHA AGAIN-- AND, OF COURSE, YOU'RE BOTH WELCOME TO STAY AT AVENGERS' MANSION AS LONG AS YOU LIKE!


WE HAD HOPED AS MUCH, CAPTAIN, FOR VERILY WE HAVE NO PLACE LEFT TO TURN!
LOTS OF US DANCE TO THAT TUNE, HERC!
SAY, 'TASH, SPEAKING OF DANCING THERE'S A GREAT DISCO DOWN ON 59th...
GOTTA WARN YA, THO, I DO A MEAN HUSTLE-- USUALLY FROM THE CEILING!
IT'S TOO BAD THE OTHERS AREN'T HERE NOW-- BUT THINGS HAVE BEEN RATHER HECTIC LATELY!
UH, THANKS BEAST, BUT I'M NOT--!


BREEOOOHHH
OOOGGAH
BY ZEUS!
BY-CYCLE! AN' BROTHER, I'M PEDDLIN'!
THE INTRUDER ALARM!
EOGGA
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LIGHTS?
BREE-OGA

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Well, I guess there isn't a comicbook fan or a television watcher who hasn't caught a few of the Spider-Man or Hulk prime-time TV shows by now. In the past few months I've received countless letters asking for my own opinion of these Marvel media cultural breakthroughs! And, since you've bothered to ask, the least I can do is help to obfuscate the issue with my own cryptic comments and cogent critiques. Naturally, as you may have guessed, I'd be happier if the shows hewed closer to our original comic-book story lines; and yet, I'm aware of the reasons which caused the networks and the producers to make so many changes. Basically, they were afraid the shows would seem too "comicbooky" if they were presented exactly the way you see the stories in our own magnificent mags. The changes in both Spidey and the Hulk were made in an effort to mold the shows closer to the format of most other TV mystery and action dramas. My own personal feeling is that it would be better to take the opposite approach and make them as different as possible. However, I must say that both Universal Studios (the producers of the Hulk), and Danchuck Productions (who do Spider-Man), have constantly striven to make their series intelligent, adult, and true to the basic spirit of the magazines themselves. I'm sure you can tell that neither series is done in a "camp" manner, nor have our characters been burlesqued or treated in a cornball way. Both the acting and direction have been first-rate, and production standards have been as high as any other prime-time show. Since I function as consultant to our TV series, the producers and I really do discuss the stories and kick all sorts of ideas around, and I'm happy to tell you that they're slowly but surely beginning to come around to our way of thinking. As more and more Marvel shows begin to hit the airwaves, you'll notice that they'll begin to get closer to the original flavor and feeling of the offbeat Marvel style. And now, a word about another new Marvel TV project. Starting early in September (consult your TV listings for exact time), NBC will be presenting the Fantastic Four in cartoon form on its network Saturday mornings. Most of the basic stories will be Bullpen produced, and the animation is being done by the award-winning DePatie-Freleng Studios who also bring you the Pink Panther and many other famous cartoon series. Give 'em a look-in — we think you'll like what you see. In future issues, I'll tell you more about our burgeoning television and movie plans, but now it's time to get back to the real world — namely the pages of mighty Marvel!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! We *told* him not to try it, but he wouldn't listen! With a resolute shrug of his broad shoulders, Gigantic JIM SHOOTER began almost a year ago to guide the Avengers through a ten-part epic saga intended to stand as a true achievement in comics art. Now, many trials, tribulations, production problems and I-told-you-so's later, despite all the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune cast by unrelenting Fate, at last it's *finished*! As it turned out, it took practically the whole blamed Bullpen pitching in to pull it off, but Big Jim managed to coordinate the effort, somehow, and preserve the creative thrust of the tale as originally conceived. So let the banners fly and the trumpets blare, for issue #177 of THE AVENGERS marks the soul-searing *conclusion* of the story begun in issue #167! We've already read it, and believe us, it's a shocker! In fact, we figure there's bound to be more than a little *controversy* over the startling climax of this magnum opus. Some say Shooter has dared *too* much, even for mighty Marvel, but, as always, the final verdict is in *your* hands. Pick up your copy, (it's on sale now), and tell us what you think.

ITEM! Everyone suspected it was coming all along, and yet Delightful DAVE COCKRUM and Pulchritudinous PATY still managed to surprise most of the Bullpenners with the announcement of their *wedding* April 28th! Dave assured us that the issue of *Ms. MARVEL* he's pencilling will come in right on time any way, but ace Production Chief, Lilitin' LENNY GROW is arranging a week's extension just in case! After all, Dave can be excused for having other things on his mind for a while, and besides, judging from the overwhelming raves his *previous* Ms.M. effort brought, this one should be worth the wait! If you hurry down to your newsstand, if you're lucky you may *still* be able to latch on to issue #20, and if you're smart, come early September you'll be first in line among the art lovers to pick up the *next* spectacular issue! Don't miss it!

ITEM! Granted, *every* month seems to be stuffed full of special events and super surprises from the House of Ideas, but this little happening has to be *the* biggest yet! Marvel Comics passes a *Major Milestone* this month with issue #200 of the magazine that started it all — THE FANTASTIC FOUR! Issue 200, on sale the third week in August, also marks the 17th anniversary of the advent of the Mighty Marvel Age of Comics. To celebrate, we've pulled out all the stops and made this landmark issue *twice* the normal size with double the action and thrills. Marvelous MARV WOLFMAN, Creative KEITH POLLARD and Joltin' JOE SINNOTT crafted it with care and respect, and all of us at Marvel are very proud of their fine effort. More, we're proud of what it represents — namely the hard work, love, and caring that has brought us all so far since the glorious day that Stan and Jack gave form and substance to their epochal ideas. To them, and to *you* our faithful following, without whom we'd be nothing, our deepest thanks, and our *promise* to carry on the fine tradition left to us. If you can only buy one comic this month, join our celebration and plunk down your 60¢ for F.F. #200 — *still* the World's Greatest Comics Magazine!

ITEM! The world has watched and waited in breathless anticipation to these several months since DAVID MICHELINIE arrived on the Marvel scene, for the Deliberate One to pick up his first regular series. Now it can be told that with issue #116 of IRON MAN, on sale *now*, Dave joins John Romita, Jr., and Bob Layton to chronicle the monthly adventures of our favorite Armored Avenger! We've learned to expect the *unexpected* from Dave, but we have to admit that he absolutely blew our minds on page seven with a startling plot development that had us checking to see if we weren't reading an issue of WHAT IF . . . ? by mistake! Nope, it's *real*, friends, and believe us, it's something you've got to be there to believe. So *be* there!

ITEM! The other day, Earnest ERNIE CHAN stopped by the hallowed halls bearing an *enormous* envelope full of inked CONAN pages. As the minions of Marvel Assembled oohed and ahhed in admiration, Ernie quietly mentioned that, by the way, he'd have been in a bit sooner except for the arrival on April 25th of his new baby girl, CLEO CARON CHAN! After proper fuss and we all allowed as to how it was okay to be a bit late with the Conan job under the circumstances, especially since, in a month or so, we figure Captivatin' Cleo will be inking backgrounds for her diligent Daddy!

ITEM! By the way, for those who are wondering where Boisterous BILL MANTLO has vanished to after his stellar stint on Iron Man, rest assured that he hasn't gone far. Bill set Iron Man aside to work with Magical MIKE GOLDEN on our latest and possibly greatest project — THE MICRONAUTS! You'll be hearing lots more about them very soon!

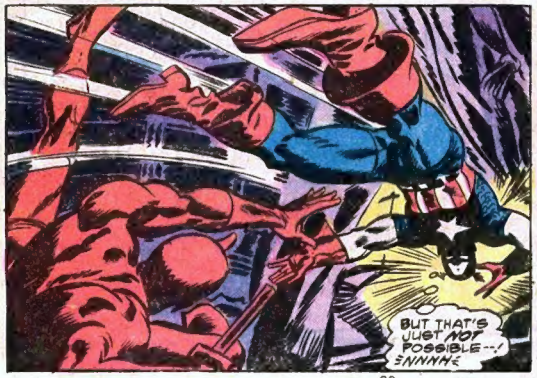
As this column was being written, word arrived that on May 7th, long-time DC Comics editor Mort Weisinger passed away. To his family, friends, our sincerest condolences.

LOOK OUT! THE BEAST'S DOWN!
BUT WHOEVER THAT IS, LURKING IN THE SHADOWS--

"--WILL ANSWER TO CAPTAIN AMERICA!"
WWHHIIZZ WW

KLANG!
SHIRK!
UNGHH

NO! HE GRABBED ME ALMOST AS IF HE KNEW ...SENSED SOMEHOW... THAT I WAS ABOUT TO LEAP!


BUT THAT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE--! SNNNNE

YOU!

NEXT ISSUE: "IN THIS CORNER... BATTLING MURDOCK!" BE HERE AT RINGSIDE WITH RAMBLIN' ROGER MCKENZIE & GENE (THE DEAN) COLAN AS THEY PRESENT POSSIBLY THE MOST OFF-BEAT DAREDEVIL EPIC EVER!